THE LOGGER'S

BARK

1916 RADIO CLUB of TACOMA 2018

DECEMBER, 2018 VOLUME 15, ISSUE 12 @Radio Club of Tacoma W7DK

Thanks to all for a wonderful Holiday Party and Awards Banquet

Ever since losing our former home for the annual W7DK Radio Club of Tacoma Holiday Party and Awards Banquet a few years ago, it's been something of a struggle to find a suitable replacement venue that meets all of our needs.

Well, based on commentary heard at this year's event from many who attended, I'd have to say that we've found a great new setting for future events. The Eagles Aerie #2933 at 72nd and South Pine really turned out to be a great location for our event in almost every way. Ample parking in a large private lot, a large full-featured kitchen for warming foods, plenty of floor space for all attendees to have a comfortable and spacious place at the table, warm and inviting decorations provided by the Eagles Club itself… what more could you ask for?

But I think what really put the icing on the cake this year was the amazing array of homemade dishes brought in by so many of our members. I was astonished at the quantity and variety of foods that so many took the time to prepare and bring. Perhaps using the pot-luck sign-up sheets for the first time made a difference for us this year – it was easy to see at a glance who was bringing what and made it easier to figure out what would best fill a need. A huge thanks to so many who brought yummy add-ons to the turkey and ham. I heard this from many folks in attendance as well.

And of course, many thanks for all the compliments for my somewhat silly attire: a Victorian tux and tails, complete with white gloves and walking stick. But I can't take full credit – Mike Drobaugh W7MKE started the ball rolling last August when he surprised me with an assortment of hats, including a very dapper Victorian top hat complete with my name and call sign. Where else could I possibly conceive of wearing such a hat than at an awards banquet, complete with matching tux and tails? So it all started with that hat, with a little help from Men's Warehouse.

Lastly, a big thanks to all the many folks who contributed in small and large ways alike to the Good of the Order over the course of the last year. It's always my great pleasure to read and present each and every certificate of recognition at our annual affair, and to see the smiles – and in many cases,

The President's Corner

Dave W7UUU

Contents

Pg. 1 President's Comments
Pg. 2 Lunch at meetings
Pg. 3 Awards Banquet pictures
Pg. 5 Antenna Experiment
Pg. 6 Big Adventure
Pg. 9 This and That
Pg. 10 ARES news
Pg. 11 Editorial—thanks
Pg. 13 PMT Sales items
Pg. 15 General meeting minutes
Pg. 18 Board of Directors minutes
Pg. 21 Officers and Staff

Thanks to everyone who helped make this a great newsletter by contributing pictures and articles. It would not happen without your support.

Thanks,

P. J. H. N7PH editor

the surprise – of the recipients as they come up to claim their certificate of honor. This year, I decided that there really needed to be two independent President's Awards handed out – it was just not possible to decide one over the other. The two recipients of the 2018 President's Award were Red, WB7EC, for his amazing success over the last year growing our Property Management sales committee into the biggest annual money maker for the club, and to Paul, W7PFU, for a similar Herculean effort as the unsung hero of the club Chuck Wagon. It's astounding the amount of work that goes into all the many meals and cleanup duties over the course of our club year. A great many thanks to Red and Paul for their outstanding efforts for our organization in 2018

So in closing, I want to wish a very Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah and Happy New Year to each and every one of you. I will look forward to seeing many of you on New Year's Eve at the Clubhouse for the annual amateur radio tradition of Straight Key Night.

Dave
W7UUU

Hungry as you make your way to the monthly meeting?

Beginning with the January 2018 General Meeting, members will now be able to order a lunch from a limited menu, prepared in the Eagles Club kitchen. The new menu is shown here - three types of sandwiches served on hoagie rolls, with a choice of condiments and cheese, for only $6 including tax and a bag of chips of your choice. Gratuity is optional with a "tip jar" on the counter for Kat, our Eagles Club head chef on Saturdays. Sorry, but it's "cash only" - no cards or checks can be accepted.

Menu forms will be on the chrome lunch counter at the meeting, and orders are asked to be submitted no later than 1:00 PM so Kat has time to make them up. So if you plan to take advantage of this new lunch option, try to arrive a bit earlier than usual to get your order in.

You'll also see a check box for "Recurring Order" on the menu form. If you check this box, Kat will keep your order on hand and always make up the same order for you each month!

Holiday and Awards Banquet—2018

Naming every one in the pictures is impossible and many are wrong way round so I will just present them here for your enjoyment.

Holiday and Awards Banquet pictures continued...

A Simple Antenna Experiment by P. J. Hicks N7PH, editor

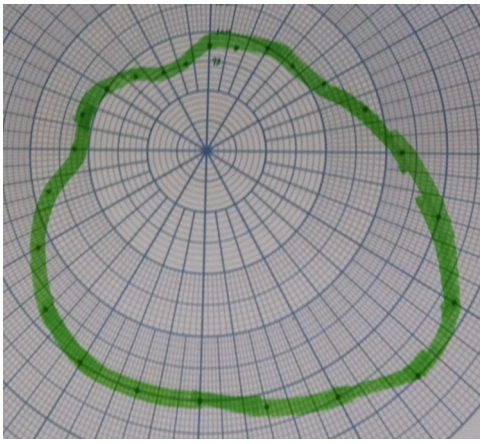
Listen in on any group of hams and most of what you will hear is 'antenna talk'. Many of us get into the Amateur Radio Hobby thinking "communicating with people in far off lands, radios, CW keys, microphones, and technical electronic stuff". And those are a large part of the hobby. We soon realize however that all this is possible only through our antenna. And the search for the "Holy Grail" of the perfect antenna begins. And never ends!

I thought I'd found a great contender for my location, the Hex Beam. There are many variations of Hex Beams out there and you can build your own fairly cheaply. I settled on the six band, 6 – 20 meter antenna sold by NA4RR. Well made, good reports, reasonably priced, etc.

When I got it up I was mildly disappointed in its performance based on conversations and reports I had heard. As it turns out, mistakenly so. My go-to antenna was a fan dipole by Alpha Delta, the DXCC, for years and the comparison proved not valid. I still love that DXCC. In trying to reconcile the performance variances I came up with an experiment to show the directivity and front to back characteristics of my antenna, in my location, under my conditions, for comparison to what was advertised.

On one occasion, as I lamented my hex beam performance, a friend suggested I get a very low powered transmitter and move it around the antenna and plot the signal strength on different bearings. I devised another approach. I would use a stationary signal source and swing the beam full circle and plot the signal strength as shown by the S-meter on my Flex6400M. The S-meter will readout in double digit dB units.

Searching around the 20 meter band I found a strong steady transmission. To ensure as little signal variation due to natural and propagation influence as possible I watched the signal for 20 to 30 minutes; it never varied. With the beam pointing north I took a reading. I then swung the beam and took a reading every 15 degrees. I then plotted these values on polar graph paper and got the plot shown. It clearly shows that there is a definite front to back component that is approximately 23 dB, several minor side lobes of 2—4 dB, and a deformation of unknown cause off the right of the main lobe. The main lobe points SE toward the signal source.



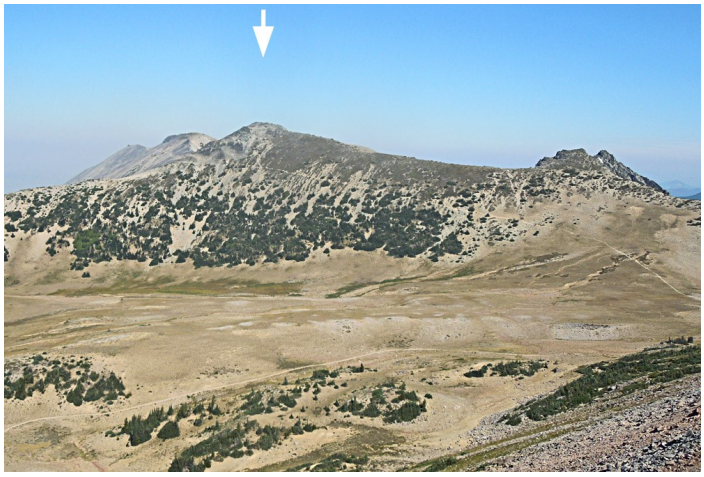
Conclusion: I have misjudged the antenna based on pre-purchase hype and comparison to a different type antenna. I find the hex antenna quieter and less sensitive than my dipole but the directivity helps a lot if pointed toward the signal of interest… dahh!

If you have a beam or are curious about the 'pattern' your antenna exhibits try a simple experiment similar to this and see for yourself.

2018 Fall VHF Contest - WW7LW's Big Adventure

On September 8, 2018 three RCT members– Mike W7MKE, Chuck AC7QN, and Rich KR7W trekked to Mt. Fremont to participate in the ARRL's Fall VHF Contest– using the MORA-ARC club call, WW7LW. Also, since Mt. Fremont is a **S**ummits **O**n **T**he **A**ir destination, Mike would be able to participate in his first SOTA outing.

Three radio stations were taken along: Chuck's Yaesu FT-817 operating 2 Meter and 70 CM SSB. Rich's Elecraft KX3 operating 6 Meter SSB for the VHF contest and 20M CW and SSB for SOTA QSOs and a Kenwood D72 FM Handy Talkie with APRS.



Left photo shows the Mt. Fremont geo formation which is located on the north side of Mt Rainier National Park– accessed from the Sunrise Visitor Area.

Visitors in this area of the Park normally trek to the Mt. Fremont fire lookout cabin (elev. 7150)– which is located on the small peak way to the left. The white arrow indicates the SOTA summit (elev. 7250') which is our destination.

Right photo shows Mike W7MKE and Chuck AC7QN at the trail head at the Sunrise Visitor Center.

Bottom photo: Some of KR7W's hiking buddies along the trail to the top..

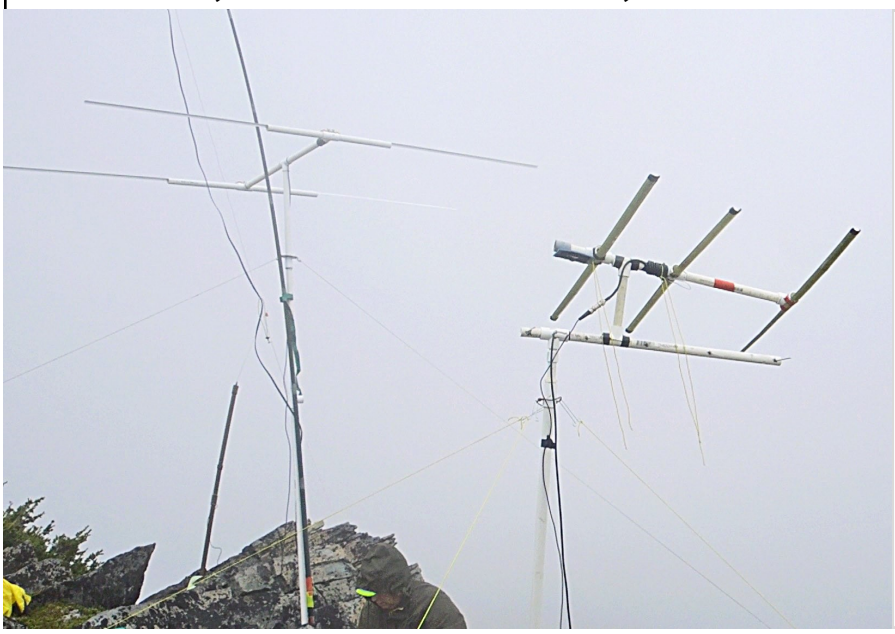
Above photo: KR7W and AC7QN on the established trail towards the lookout about 1.5 miles from the car. 200 ft from this point– the radio hikers took a right hand turn to be off trail to access the ridge line and then hike uphill to the summit.

R photo: AC7QN (blue coat) at 2M/70CM SSB station.

Mike (green coat) at 6M SSB+ HF + VHF FM + APRS station.

Does Mr Goat hear Morse Code?

Above photo: The group is now on the summit. KR7W using a FCC Approved Kenwood D72 Handy talkie and Vertical Dipole antenna- makes contact with other VHF and SOTA summit-goers on 146.520 FM calling frequency– to alert them of our arrival and to please stand by for more QSOs. White thingy in pack is the 6M Yagi.



Antenna Farm:

Left stick: Jammed in rocks- VHF FM Vertical Dipole for 146.52 and APRS comms.

Center: 2 Element– 6M Yagi on 8 ft PVC tower. 23 ft fiberglass fish pole is attached to PVC mast. Fish pole supports the 44 ft doublet antenna for SOTA HF operations.

Right: 2M Tape Measure Yagi and 70 CM Yagi.

All antennas here are Homebrew and worked very well.

Right: Mike W7MKE operates Summits on the Air on 6M SSB using KX3 at 7 watts output.

Mike's first SOTA outing netted 5 QSOs using 2M, 6M, and 20M.

AC7QN made 5 QSOs for his SOTA scoreboard.

KR7W's SOTA effort made 15 QSOs on 20M CW, including Spain… and 9 FM Q's on 146.52.

The WW7LW Contest Team scored whopping 377 points for making 28 QSOs:

70CM = 1 QSOs

2M = 18

6M = 9

Was it cold outside, baby? Kinda- 38 degrees, slight wind with fog. No rain, but no view at this very scenic place in the National Park.

R Photo: Is that a gang of goats?… or is my oxygen depleted occipital lobe playing tricks on me at 7250 ft. elevation?

Happy Trails. 73 and Good DX- Rich KR7W -30-

This and That

Update: Learning or Refreshing Your Morse Code?

In an earlier article, I spoke about starting my journey in re-learning Morse code. I am still on that journey. The goal I'm working for is a solid 20 words per minute while listening to random alpha-numeric-punctuation characters (*40 Characters*) with a 30 wpm character speed. Of course I would like progress to be much faster, but overall there has been steady progress. When a last wrote on this topic, I was using both the G4FON (link below) simulator and the JustLearnMorseCode (link below) simulator. Now I am using only the JustLearnMorseCode (JLMC) simulator. The primary difference I am finding very helpful in using the JLMC simulator is that I can type the characters into the simulator as I hear them and the simulator will give me a character by character report on how many hits or misses for each character, a percentage correct, and an overall percentage for the session. At the moment I am using 5 minute sessions, 30 wpm characters and 15 wpm word speed. Sometimes I will vary the word speed from 13 to 25 WPM just to keep my brain from becoming too accustomed to one rhythm. With JLMC I am able recognize what characters are giving me the most problems and use focused practice sessions on just those characters. I've found that using my emotional sense of how well I am doing or which characters are giving me problems during a session, is often just plain wrong!
I have also come to recognize that characters I am not yet proficient with, will often cause longer brain drop-outs affecting the copy of the following one to three characters. With the alpha characters I can be copying 100%, but when number and punctuation are included, some alpha characters will drop to as-low-as 60%.
For some time now, recognizing the difference between "b" and "6" has been most challenging, with the difference between "J" and "1" a close second. Currently my overall copy proficiency at 30wpm character speed and 15 wpm word speed has been in the 70% to 75% range. I expect that as I become more proficient with "6", my overall proficiency to jump up. This expected jump will be because of the reduced effects of brain-dropouts. Progress with "6" has been slow, but because I can now measure it, I can recognize progress.
Sometimes when talking with others who lament their speed improvement has plateaued, I begin to wonder if it might be related to just a few characters causing ill effects? I would love to hear your thoughts and stories about your experience.

Youth Ham Radio Learning

At the December RCT Board Meeting, we had a presentation from Scouting- Pacific Harbors Council Senior District Executives Mark Woodman and Steve Shumaker K7DFC. Steve is a RCT member. They explained the differences between a traditional scouting program and an Explorer Club. The Explorer Club looks to be a good fit with what we can offer with Ham Radio and Electronics Learning for youth. The RCT BOD has approved RCT to charter with Scouting an Explorer Group. I will be working on the paperwork to make this happen. Several RCT members have indicated they are willing to help out and we are looking for more volunteers. Technical radio competence is not a prerequisite to helping. In fact, it would be a good place to learn as the young people learn.
If you would like to learn more about helping out, please contact me directly so I can provide you with more of the details and answer your questions
That's ***This and That*** for now.
Hope you found something to think about. Topic Suggestions & Feedback Welcome.
73's, Steve AF7YD.
http://www.g4fon.net/CW%20Trainer.htm
http://www.justlearnmorsecode.com/

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
Western Washington Section
District 5, Pierce County ARES
www.PierceCountyARES.net

Greetings,
ARES articles provide information about amateur radio emergency communications, and Pierce County District 5 ARES activities and events. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is an ARRL organization dedicated to Amateur Radio Emergency Communication through skill and preparedness.

When You Need Amateur Radio, You Really Need It!

The Background…
Pierce County ARES manages local ARES activity, training, exercises, and skill development. Pierce County ARES supports and meets at the Pierce County Emergency Operations Center.

A look back at 2018…
As we end 2018 we reflect on the ARES year of service. ARES planned, trained for and executed four quarterly Emergency Operations Center drills which included State, County, and local city Emergency Operations Centers and ARES Teams. ARES promoted Amateur Radio and Emergency Communications at the Graham Fair, and Lakewood Emergency Preparation community Event. There were 12 monthly membership training sessions, and 9 Saturday morning training classes. ARES Supported the Tacoma Marathon in April, participated in the Orting Lahar Drill in May, and provided support to the Washington State Hospital in Steilacoom.

ARES District 5 provided support to multiple Pierce County Agencies including:
- Dupont Emergency Operations Center
- Lakewood Emergency Operations Center
- Peninsula Multi-Agency Coordination Center
- Pierce County Emergency Management
- Pierce County Emergency Operations Center
- Puyallup Emergency Operations Center
- Sumner Emergency Operations Center
- Western Washington Medical Services Team
- And the emerging Orting Emergency Operations Service development

ARES District 5 received the prestigious Pierce County Council Volunteer Group of the Year.

ARES activities…
Pierce County ARES training sessions this month included a presentation on Antennas, VHF, UHF and HF, including field deployable and Near Vertical Incident Skywave and an Annual activity wrap-up and plans for the upcoming ARES Leadership Seminar.

Coming Events/Training…
(Unless otherwise indicated location is Pierce County Emergency Operations Center)
On Saturday, 29 December ARES will be participating in the Washington State Emergency Operations Centers Exercise. Pierce County ARES will be focusing on ARES Team objectives and tasks.
January training sessions will include programs on Field Sanitation and a Leadership Seminar in **February**.

The program will be on Connectors.

ARES Meetings...

Pierce County ARES Meets Monthly, at 7 pm on the **Third Thursday** at the Pierce County Emergency Operations Center. Meetings always have a program, normally with an EmComm Training Focus.

Pierce County District 5 Website: http://www.piercecountyares.net/web
ARES Membership Application: http://www.piercecountyares.net/web/application
ARES Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/PierceCountyARES/files/
Washington State Emergency Management: https://www.facebook.com/WashEMD/

ARES Information and Communications Plan frequencies...

For ARES Team, EOC frequencies, and other ARES activities you may also use the following W7DK.org Website, using the following link:
http://www.w7dk.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=46&Itemid=111

Larry Watson, KD4VOM
Pierce County ARES
Kd4vom@mailcan.com

EDITORIAL

As I near the end of my first year as The BARK editor there are some things I wish to say to the readers. And to some of the people who have consistently supported my efforts to produce an informative newsletter.

But first I want to wish a very happy and safe holiday season to one and all. Most of us are of an age when the excitement of the season is drawn more from the excitement of our young ones rather than from all the commercially generated hoopla. Santa lives in the eyes of the young.

I must thank Randy WB4SPB, who works behind the scenes as proofreader and context editor and saves us all from reading confusion. Then I wish to thank Rich KR7W who always has an interesting article to entertain and teach us. Dave W7UUU sums up the past month and previews the coming month to start off the newsletter. Thanks also to Larry KD4VOM, Steve AF7YD, Red WB7EC, Bob K7MXE, and so many others who take their time to compose and submit reports of RCT activities they are involved in or chair.

If you attended the Holiday and Awards Banquet then you know that many of these people were honored that afternoon for their contributions to the good of the club. But you don't know of their support and contributions to The BARK. Thank you for all that you have done in that regard. It has helped me immensely in producing The BARK.

Now the sales pitch. The BARK is only as good as the material that goes into it. That material comes from you, the membership. My job is to arrange it into an attractive format with proper spelling and syntax and present it to you each month. I try very hard to do so. I can only be successful if you participate. What you send me has only to be somewhat related to Ham Radio. If it is interesting to you, radio wise , then it is probably interesting to BARKY readers. Send me the pictures, write up an article, send in ideas… see your name in print.

P. J. Hicks, N7PH hickspj467@comcast.net

This space is waiting for YOUR article!

hickspj467@comcast.net

STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

The Radio Club of Tacoma has a long tradition of participating in the

Annual ARRL Straight Key night (SKN)

December 31, New Years Eve, 2018 4:00pm to 9:00pm or so

Pizza will be delivered at 5:30pm (bring a desert if you'd like to contribute)

Morse Code Bingo with prizes 7:00pm

QLF sending demonstrations as required

Go to the website for more details; W7DK.org

RCT WINTER SALE NOV -DEC 2018

	PRICE	RCT#
1. Millen Grid Dip Osc.	$150.00	3819
2. Tube Tester Meter	$ 10.00	
3. Meter Tube Tester Jewel	$ 10.00	
4. Heath Clock GS-1000	$150.00	3706
6. Hallicrafter S-38A Receiver	$ 30.00	3821
7. ICOM 440 mobile XCVR IC-410	$ 50.00	3519
11. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-450	$300.00	3389
12. MFJ Ant Tuner MFJ-986	$200.00	3825
14. W2THY Memory Keyer	$ 20.00	3759
15. Gonset 6 MTR XCVR COMM 3	$ 40.00	3637
16. Gonset HF SSB TX GSB-100	$100.00	3866
18. Yaesu HF PWR AMP FT-2100B	$400.00	3827
20. ICOM HF XCVR IC-725	$200.00	3810
21, Dentron Super tuner	$ 75.00	3646
22. wooden speaker	$ 10.00	
24. Kenwood Microphone MC-80	$ 60.00	3393
25. Kenwood XTAL Filter YG-455C-1	$ 75.00	3844
27. Battery Charger AT-5000	$ 30.00	3778
29. Shure Microphone	$ 30.00	3363
35. EICO HF XCVR 753/ with PS	$100.00	3867
38. ICOM UHF ALL MODE XCVR IC-471A RX OK, TX-0	$150.00	3830
41. Suitcase with Tektronix scope camera	$100.00	
42. Tekronix Oscilloscope 422	$ 50.00	3849
43. Tekronix Oscilloscope 547	$ 50.00	3850
44. HP VHF Signal Generator 608E	$ 50.00	3851
48. Yaesu HF XCVR FT-101E -5 items	$300.00	3854
49. Yaesu VFO for FT-101 p/o 48		3855
50. Yaesu 6 mtr transverter p/o 48		3856
51. Yaesu phone patch p/o 48		3857
52. Spectronics Digital Display DD-1 p/o 48		3858
53. Drake XCVR TR-4	$225.00	3859
54. Drake power Supply AC-3 p/o 53		3860
56. HP Frequency counter 5230L	$ 75.00	3868
57. Triplett VOM 360	$100.00	3869
58. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-450S SN: 41200236	$350.00	3872
59. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-520SE SN: 732164	$200.00	3873
61. Drake HF RX R-4C SN: 18647	$100.00	3875
62. Drake HF XCVR TR-4 SN: 27035	$100.00	3876
63. HP Signal Generator 8640B SN: 1350A01429	$250.00	3878
64. HP Signal Generator 8640B SN: 1341A01172	$250.00	3879
65. ATO Interstate log sweep generator F77 SN: 941	$ 75.00	3880
66. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-520 SN: 40587	$200.00	3881
67. Kikusui COS Oscilloscope 6100M SN: 4041791	$150.00	3882
70. HP Frequency Counter 5328A SN: 2248A56070	$100.00	3885

As always, if you are interested in items from this list, or other non-listed items, get in contact with a club officer or PMT committee person for a demonstration or to purchase the item.

PMT Winter SALE Continued

71. Non-Linear Systems mini-scope MS-215 SN: 8314	$ 30.00	3886
72. Leader Bench power supply LPS-152, SN: 2030113	$100.00	3887
73. HP TRUE RMS METER 3403A SN: 1223A00525	$ 50.00	3888
74. Tektronix Strg scope/5-plugins 7834 SN: 8034906	$150.00	3889
75. Hammarlund HF RX Model SP-600	$ 50.00	3890
76. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-440S SN: 10600037	$300.00	3891
If sold with #77	$350.00	
77. Kenwood Speaker SP-230, SN: 11100053	$ 60.00	3892
80. Yaesu HF XCVR FT-757GX/mic/mb, SN: 4H110753	$300.00	3897
If sold with #83 - Signalink	$350.00	
81. Yaesu VHF XCVR FT-2900/mic, SN: 2D400129	$100.00	3898
82. Astron Power Supply RS-20A SN: 20140203	$ 30.00	3899
83. Tigertronics Signal Link USB-8R (Yaesu cable)	$ 75.00	3900
84. Comet Triplexer CFX-514	$ 50.00	3902
85. National HF Receiver NC-183D	$100.00	3904
86. Heathkit HF Transmitter DX-100	$ 80.00	3905
87. Astron power supply RS-35 M	$ 70.00	3341

The PMT would like to thank all the club members who donated or purchased sale items. 2018 was a good year for us. The Awards Dinner Raffle brought in $223.00 – last year it was $ 146.00. The PMT will be up-dating the club's loan policy for 2019 soon and a loan list will be posted at the clubhouse and be In future BARK issues. Everyone enjoy the holiday's and see you next year. 73

RED CRANEFIELD WB7EC

STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

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Annual ARRL Straight Key night (SKN)

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Morse Code Bingo with prizes 7:00pm

QLF sending demonstrations as required

Go to the website for more details; W7DK.org

Radio Club of Tacoma
Annual Membership Business Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2018

All Election Ballots were turned over to Secretary prior to the striking of the gavel.

Meeting called to order at 1330 PST by President Dave W7UUU at **the Eagles Aerie #3 Hall.**
Officers and Directors Present

President	Dave Ellison W7UUU
Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Treasurer	Steve Dightman AF7YD
Board	Red Cranefield WB7EC
Board	Phil Pia K7PIA
Board	Adam Barbera W2NCC
Board	Paul Matney W7PFU

Pledge of Allegiance led by Dave W7UUU

Election of Officers and Directors President Dave W7UUU named Mike W7XTZ, Anne W7ANN and Ron K6HSB as the Election Committee. They took possession of ballots and retired to conduct the count. Dave also passed around a sign-up sheet for the annual banquet.

Welcome and Self-Introductions

Guests present AC7KF Dave was in attendance.
New Calls None announced.
Self-introductions were completed. **There were 32 names on the attendance roster**

Health and Welfare

Silent Keys and Illness Dave announced the death in a tower climbing accident of non-member Paul Bittner W0AIH of Fall Creek, Wisconsin. Paul was known to many club members from his on the air contest contacts.

Secretary's Report (W7MWF) Usual stuff: periodicals, utility bills, bank statements, QSL cards for both DK and OS. Some Salmon Run pledge payments and donations came in. Many membership renewals and ballots were received.

Treasurer's Report (AF7YD) Steve reported all current bills paid and deposits made.

President's Report Dave brought up member suggestions for table arrangements at the general meeting room and solicited solutions. He also advised that one or more members feel the current venue is unsuitable and requested suggestions be provided to the board for consideration of other sites. He requested members to contact him if they are interested in being appointed to lead any committees next year. Mike W7MWF suggested that the December general meeting scheduled for Saturday December 1 be combined with the

annual banquet on December 2. Members in attendance agreed that was a sensible thing to do and it was declared that the Annual Banquet will be qualified as the December General meeting. This decision carried by voice vote of members present.

Committee / Activity Reports

Boy Scout Camporee (AF7YD) Steve reported on club participation at event on Oct 20-21. Approximately 100 Scouts participated in three sessions sponsored by the team fielded by Steve AF7YD and Mike W7MKE. Events held included lectures, ARDF, and a JOTA station supported by Steve AD7VL.

Membership (K7GRS/W7MKE) Membership report. George advised we have 278 members. About ½ of the renewals have been returned so far. Adam W2NCC reminded members that the newsgroup W7DK.groups.io was activated and invited participation

Training Technician Class November 10/11
Extra Class license theory course in progress until early December
Dave N7HT will teach a General License upgrade class January 17 through March 21

VE Report (AC7WW)) The next VE Session will be held November 13

HF Operations (K7PIA) Phil reported that the HF stations are in good shape. 140 contacts were made on the CQWW contest. Info was provided on upcoming contests.

Repeater Ops (K7TMW) We are still having audio problems on the Bates .21 repeater.

IT Report (WB4SPB) Randy reported that everything is hunky-dory with the IT infrastructure

Museum (KR7W) There was no report on museum activities

Facilities Mgmt (W2NCC) Adam W2NCC updated the club on facilities issues, including door acquisition and installations, rodents, and possible tower projects.

Prop Mgmt (WB7EC) Sales and donation reports and updates were presented by Red WB7EC. Sales and donations continue unabated. October surplus sales netted $331and the October raffled netted $21.

4th Weds Activity Night - TBA

New Business

Unfinished Business and Announcements

Annual Awards Banquet The Annual Holiday and Awards Banquet will be held Sunday afternoon, December 2 from 1 until 3 p.m. at 7037 S PINE ST. TACOMA, WA. Note that this is NOT the facility where we hold our monthly meetings. Food will be pot-luck style with meat courses (turkey/ham) and beverages provided by the club. A sign-up sheet is being circulated for opportunities to bring salads, side-dishes, desserts, or other comestibles.

Program Dave W7UUU presented an old time (1960s) movie with cameo appearances by Arthur Godfrey and Barry Goldwater

Announcement of Election Results On behalf of the election committee, Mike W7XTZZ reported that all incumbents had been reelected to their respective offices. A total of 99 ballots were tabulated.

Tuning and Traffic Phil K7PIA reported having worked VP6B 16 times on multiple bands using multiple modes.

Door Prize was won by Steve AF7YD

Raffle Prize was won by Paul W7PFU

Adjournment at 1507 PST

STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

The Radio Club of Tacoma has a long tradition of participating in the

Annual ARRL Straight Key night (SKN)

December 31, New Years Eve, 2018 4:00pm to 9:00pm or so

Pizza will be delivered at 5:30pm (bring a desert if you'd like to contribute)

Morse Code Bingo with prizes 7:00pm

QLF sending demonstrations as required

Go to the website for more details; W7DK.org

Radio Club of Tacoma
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1900 PST by Vice President Mike W7XTZ.

Officers and Directors Present

Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary Mike Finnie W7MWF
Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD
Board Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Adam Barbera W2NCC
Board Red Cranefield WB7EC
Board Phil Pia K7PIA

Quorum A quorum was seated. There were 14 members listed on the sign in sheet, a copy of which is filed with these minutes

Silent Key or Illness It was brought to our attention after the October BOD meeting that Victor Allison K7VWA joined the ranks of the Silent Keys on September 6.

Approval of Minutes Minutes of the October 3, 2018 Board Meeting were approved as circulated.

Secretary's Report Mike W7MWF reported the usual Correspondence received: Subscriptions, utility bills, bank statements, dues renewals and new members. Ballots received prior to election numbered 99. Mike also advised that a club info table had been reserved at the Mike and Key Swapmeet.

Treasurer's Report Steve AF7YD reported that we have positive balances in the accounts and that all bills have been paid and deposits are up to date. Steve indicated that he will have year-end reports and comparisons with previous years available after the end of the year.

Committee / Reports

Membership George K7GRS and Mike W7MKE provided info on member counts and distribution, dues renewals, and Salmon Run Donation update which indicated donations of $5,614.85 to date. A copy of the reports is filed with these minutes.

Training

Tech License Training November 10/11
VE Testing next session November 13
License upgrade class (Extra) will be in session on Monday nights through 12/10
Dave N7HT planning General Class License training January 17 – March 21 (Thursday nights)

Info Tech Randy WB4SPB advised that all equipment is working nominally, normally, and within expected operational parameters.

Report of Annual Election It was reported that the Annual Election was completed at the meeting on November 3, and that the four candidates, all incumbents, were returned to office to serve another term.

HF Operations Phil K7PIA reported that the status of HF Equipment was in overall good condition and operable. Mike W7MWF read into the record a letter received from club member Rich KR7W indicating his misgivings as to the operational condition of the Flex 6500, and a possible solution to be considered. The letter was noted by the board and Phil indicated he would meet with Rich and investigate issues raised and potential solutions for resolution. Phil will report back to the Board at their December meeting. A copy of Rich's letter is filed with these minutes.
Past contest reports were provided and info about upcoming contests was promulgated.

Repeater Ops KR7W submitted (via email to the Secretary) a written report of repairs to 147.28 repeater & Bates repeater plans. A copy of the report is filed with these minutes.

Property Mgmt Red WB7EC reported October sales generated $331 and raffle sales of $21. Red advised that two sales tables had been reserved for the Mike and Key Swapmeet in March. Red submitted his surplus equipment list and requested approval for PMT disposition of the items. The Board authorized disposition in accordance with RCT and PMT policies. A copy of the list is filed with these minutes.

The HF committee reported that the Henry amplifier was surplus equipment and that the tubes should be removed and the remaining parts of the Henry be disposed of by PMT in a suitable manner.

Red suggested that there be a decision regarding the grand prize to be awarded at the annual banquet. It was moved and seconded to authorize $200 for the grand prize, which will be an item or gift certificate chosen by the banquet committee.

Facilities Management - issues addressed by Adam W2NCC

- Garage bay door (bids being solicited)
- Garage man-door & pad installed
- Garage tower project – need for new coax to run from patch panel to garage.
- Upstairs subpanel status – work in progress
- Mouse problem in clubhouse – traps set
- Garage cleanup – Need for firm decisions needed on disposition of large bulky items in the main garage bay. VP Mike W7XTZ appointed an ad hoc committee of Adam W2NCC, Red WB7EC, Al N7OMS and Randy WB4SPB to evaluate property and make decisions as to disposition.

Museum (KR7W) No report available

Weds Workshop TBA – Scheduling options to be discussed under activity reports items

General Meeting The presentation for the November General Meeting was the airing of an old movie about amateur radio, and a video presentation of the WW7LW trek for 2019 Salmon Run

Unfinished Business Adan W2NCC reported that the 70 feet Rohn 25 tower previously stored at Larry KD4VOM QTH is now stored alongside the garage.

New Business

Adam W2NCC reported that another bulk purchase order from MFJ being pursued.

Steve AF7YD submitted proposals to create/support programs to encourage and provide mechanisms for increasing youth interest and participation in amateur radio operations. Proposals were emailed to BOD members and a copy is filed with these minutes. Following discussion of Steve's proposals, they were generally supported in concept; however, insufficient information regarding responsibilities and obligations of parties involved was available. Additional details were requested and action was tabled until a later date when it could be more adequately evaluated.

Activity Reports and Discussion Topics

Steve AF7YD reported that operations with Boy Scouts Camporee at Ski Lake Park held on Oct. 19 – 21 were very successful. Over 100 Scouts participated.

Upcoming Holiday Banquet on Sunday, December 2 at the Eagles Club at 7037 S PINE ST. TACOMA, WA. This will be a potluck with meats and beverages furnished by the club. A signup sheet for bringing side-dishes has been available at the clubhouse. The Banquet will also the occasion for the December General Meeting which was scheduled for December 1.

Randy WB4SPB brought forth a member suggestion to consider alternative days for workshops to stimulate attendance and presenters.

Randy WB4SPB raised the issue regarding no guidance in by-laws regarding write-in candidates for open positions. Following discussion, no action was taken.

Prevention of public dissemination of BOD member's email addresses was discussed. Randy gave an overview of the situation and each board member was given the opportunity to opt out of having their address published.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 2053 PST

Wishing Everyone a Very Merry and Happy Holidays

The Club LINEUP

Club Officers

President: Dave Ellison, W7UUU - w7uuu@w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis, W7XTZ - w7xtz@w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Finnie, W7MWF - w7mwf@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd@w7dk.org

5 Board Members

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p@w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu@w7dk.org

Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc@w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec@w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia@w7dk.org

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $35 per calendar year. $30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

www.w7dk.org - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia @ 1500 ft. ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3